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Attorney Docket: 622/40901CO
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: ROMAN SCHERTLER

Serial No.: 08/962,776

Group Art Unit: 3206

Filed: NOVEMBER 3, 1997

Examiner: KHAN V. NGUYEN

Title: A VACUUM PROCESS APPARATUS

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N. Nguyen
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR § 1.56**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

January 18, 2000

02/02/2000 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

CONCISE EXPLANATION OF NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE DOCUMENTS

An English abstract of the attached Japanese Application No. 3-109727 is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed without a Statement under 37 CFR §1.97(e) after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance (whichever is earlier), and therefore a check for the fee of \$240.00 under 37

CFR §1.17(p) is attached. Please charge any necessary fee or credit any overpayment in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #622/40901CO).

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

January 18, 2000



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